

21 cornhill

Thursd. p.m.

Dear Brewster;

apt. 12-

[1858]?

The printers this morn. rec'd.

3 parcels (I think 3) of proof from
you, - at all events, all they were
expecting; but the delay has been a
sore inconvenience to them. So much
matter had accumulated in type,
(which they could not work off and
distribute, and so use again) that
their fonts were well nigh exhausted,
and the work of composition ^{for several days.} on the
Report was suspended, ^{suspending}. If this
sh^d occur again, they ~~fear~~ ^{say} they could
not comply with our expectations as
to getting off the Edition in season; -
and they therefore desire, with your
consent, some other arrangement to be
made; and I have expressed my
willingness to read the proof here, to

the best of my ability, and to
enable them to proceed with
their work without any loss of
time. Prentiss says - "Even
if no delay occurred, there
seems to be no use in sending the
proof so far; - for Mr. B.'s
copy is so good, to begin with, the
mistakes are scarcely possible;
2^d. We read here carefully by
copy; - and, moreover, as a
matter of fact. Mr. Burleigh
makes almost no corrections at
all."

So herewith you have the
case. If you say so, I, with
what help I can get of Charles
Whipple perhaps, will do my
best, - ^{to read the proof -} and thus, also, enable

You to give your undivided
attention to the Report.

I wrote to you on Monday
or Tuesday of this week.

Truly Yrs
Sam'l May Jr

ms.B.1.6 v.6, p. 91